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The Business and Industrial Outlook

The constructive developments during the month of August have been mainly of a financial character rather than industrial. A gold inflow from abroad of $177,000,000 since June 15 has followed a gold outflow of over $700,000,000 during the first half of 1932. This change shows a generally re-established confidence in the financial position position of the United States by foreign countries. Moreover, there has been a cessation of the continued increase in the amount of money in circulation due to the hoarding of funds. The usual 2 per cent increase in amount of money in circulation did not occur as these demands were met by the return flow of hoarded funds, the total decrease of the total of money in circulation during the past three months amounting to over $100,000,000 if due allowance is made for the seasonal factor. The increasing investments of the Federal Reserve banks in United States securities have been discontinued since the inflow of money from abroad and the amendments to the Federal Reserve Act allowing banks to issue notes against certain classes of United States bonds, and the easy-money-market conditions have removed the need for increasing bank deposits through the purchase of these securities. This improved financial position is further reflected in an increase of 3 per cent in the Federal Reserve ratio.

The reporting member banks, however, show a little more than the normal seasonal decline in loans. The decline of 2 per cent during the month in loans on securities is somewhat surprising in consideration of the speculative activity prevailing during the period. The Stock Exchange reported an increase of $37,000,000 in brokers' loans during August, leaving the inference that these speculative loans were secured mainly from sources other than the banks. The investments of member banks in United States securities increased during August and the investment in other securities remained unchanged at a time when it usually decreases. At such time as industrial activity begins to show considerable revival the "all other loans" item should begin to show improvement. The 2 per cent increase in net demand deposits during August at a time when these deposits usually decline is caused partly by the easier money situation arising from the inflow of foreign funds and other factors including the decrease in hoarding and the decline in bank failures.

If attention is turned to the field of industrial activity there is much less progress toward recovery than is found in the field of banking and finance. Industrial employment in Ohio showed a more-than-seasonal decline in August and such increases in industrial activity as may have developed were doubtless more than offset by declines in other areas. While business activity as shown by various indexes also declined in August the New York Times index showed slight improvement during the first two weeks of September. The car-loadings increase occurring during the last week of August was of mainly a seasonal character as was also some increase in the output of electric power in the United States. The most striking improvements of an industrial character occurred in the field of textiles in the New England and southern states. This involved some revival in the cotton, wool, and silk trades.

The construction industry showed less than a normal seasonal decline in August, commercial and public utility construction showing an actual improvement over the preceding month. The total of construction is, however, 45 per cent below that of the preceding year, which was also a very low volume, so that such revival in construction as has occurred is a rather insignificant matter. There is some relief, however, in being able to report a slight improvement in areas where there has been continuous decline.

The most significant development in the iron and steel industry was an increase in the price of heavy melting scrap. This is generally found to occur a month or more in advance of an increase in the output of iron and steel. The pig iron output in Ohio during August was steady while there is usually some decline, but in the United States the output of both iron and steel showed a more than normal decline. The unfilled orders of the United States Steel Corporation in August show practically no change when there is usually a decline. During early September the percentage operation of the steel mills increased from 13½ to 14 per cent capacity, a rather insignificant change considering the very low state of operations.

While production of automobiles and trucks declined more than normally in August, the decline in new bills of sales filed was less than normal in the chief cities of the State.

The most important change in the business outlook arises from the improvement in wholesale prices which were, on an average, 3.7 points higher on September 8 than on August 2. The rise took place mainly in farm, food, and textile products. Metal products rose 1.3 points during the month. Agricultural prices—particularly cotton, corn, and wheat—showed considerable reaction on the Government estimate of a 13,310,000 bale cotton crop in the United States for 1932. The speculative commodities also showed some further reaction in sympathy with the decline in stock prices during the second week of September. These prices are still considerably higher than the low prices for the year. The cotton crop is several million bales lower than the normal crop in this country and the Cotton Stabilization Corporation is being furnished with funds by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to hold the Farm Board stocks of cotton off the market until March of 1933. The figures on agricultural income in Ohio show more than a normal improvement in August as will be noted elsewhere in this issue.

In Great Britain and Italy, wholesale prices increased

during the month of August, but exports in all the leading countries remain at a low figure as compared with the preceding year.

The Standard Statistics index on stock prices for 421 stocks shows a rise in the month ending September 7 of 19.2 points to an average of 64.1. This is a very high percentage rise. The index for movement of 90 stocks showed a rise from 46.6 August 2 to 73.9 September 7. There was a 12 point decline by the close on September 13. The speculative rise had gone far beyond reasonable bounds considering the conditions in business and industry. The reaction will, however, probably leave the market still far above the lows of last July.

With the current background of improvement in financial conditions it would not be expected that the market would at an early date sink back to the July lows.

SPURGEON BELL, *Director.*

Business Conditions in Ohio and Ohio Cities

Ohio Bank Debits

Bank debits in Ohio declined 17 per cent in August from July as compared with an August decline of 11 per cent during the past 5 years. In the United States outside New York City, bank debits declined 9 per cent in August from July, as compared with an average August decline of 6 per cent. As compared with August, 1931, bank debits in Ohio declined 39 per cent, and in the United States outside New York City, 31 per cent. For the first 8 months of 1931, bank debits in Ohio declined 37 per cent from the corresponding period of last year, while, in the United States outside New York City, the declines for the same period amounted to 29 per cent.

Employment in Ohio

Total industrial employment in Ohio declined 5 per cent in August from July as compared with the 5-year average August decline of only 1 per cent. Both manufacturing and non-manufacturing employment contributed to the decline in August, manufacturing employment declining 5 per cent and non-manufacturing employment, 2 per cent. Both the 5 per cent decline in manufacturing employment and the 2 per cent decline in non-manufacturing employment were in sharp contrast with an average August decline of only 1 per cent during the past 5-year period. Construction employment increased 2 per cent in August from July, which was only slightly greater than the average August increase of 1 per cent. As compared with August, 1931, manufacturing employment declined 23 per cent; non-manufacturing employment, 13 per cent; construction employment, 36 per cent; and total employment, 22 per cent. For the first 8 months of this year as compared with the same period of last year, manufacturing employment dropped 19 per cent; non-manufacturing employment, 10 per cent; construction employment, 43 per cent; and total industrial employment, 18 per cent.

Although for the State as a whole employment continued to decline in August, 299 of the 873 firms reporting to the Bureau of Business Research reported employment increases in August, and 131, no further decline. In only one of the major manufacturing groups of industries, however—the food products group—was August employment greater than July. In one other group—the lumber products group—there was no further employment decline in August from July. In all other groups, August employment continued downward, the declines ranging from 1 per cent in the paper and printing industry to 10 per cent in the vehicles industry, and amounting to 2 per cent in the chemicals industry, 4 per cent in the machinery industry, 5 per cent in the stone, clay and glass products and the textiles industries, 6 per cent in the rubber and rubber products industries, and 7 per cent in the metal products and the miscellaneous manufacturing industries. The relative stability in employment in the lumber products industries in August was in contrast with an average August increase of 3 per cent during the past 5-year period, so that employment when corrected for seasonal change showed some decline in this industry also. The 2 per cent decline in the chemicals industry was in contrast with average seasonal stability during the past 5 years, and in all the other groups which showed declines the August declines were either greater than the average August decline during the past 5 years or in contrast with an average August increase, indicating more than seasonal declines in all of these industries.

As compared with August, 1931, all the major manufacturing groups reported declines, ranging from 10 per cent in the chemicals and the rubber products groups to 35 per cent in the vehicles group, and amounting to 11 per cent in the paper and printing group, 12 per cent in the food products group, 18 per cent in the miscellaneous manufacturing group, 20 per cent in the textiles group, 27 per cent in the metal products group, 28 per cent in the lumber products group, 30 per cent in the machinery group, and 31 per cent in the stone, clay and glass products group. In considering percentage declines in 1932 from the corresponding period of 1931, it should be remembered that employment had reached a relatively low level in 1931.

For the first 8 months of 1932 as compared with the same period of 1931, all the major manufacturing groups reported declines ranging from 7 per cent in the rubber products industry to 30 per cent in the vehicles industries, and amounting to 8 per cent in the food products industries, 9 per cent in the chemicals and the paper and print-

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ing industries, 10 per cent in the textiles industries, 11 per cent in the miscellaneous manufacturing industries, 18 per cent in the lumber products industry, 22 per cent in the stone, clay and glass products industry, 23 per cent in the metal products industry, and 25 per cent in the machinery industries.

TABLE I

EMPLOYMENT IN OHIO INDUSTRIES
AUGUST, 1932

Average Month 1926 = 100
Source: Individual Reports of Cooperators

Industry	Index Aug., 1932	Ch'ge Aug., 1932 from July, 1932	Aver. Ch'ge Aug., from July, 1927-1931	Change Aug., 1932 from Aug., 1931	Average Jan.-Aug. Change from 1931
Total Manufacturing (642)*	59	— 5	— 1	—23	—19
CHEMICALS (22)	81	— 2	0	—10	— 9
FOOD PRODUCTS (57)	102	+ 4	+ 1	—12	— 8
Bakery (16)	103	0	— 1	—11	— 5
Miscellaneous (41)	103	+ 6	+ 1	—12	— 9
LUMBER PRODUCTS (31)	48	0	+ 3	—28	—18
Furniture (17)	49	+ 1	+ 6	—34	—17
Miscellaneous (14)	51	— 1	+ 1	—16	—15
MACHINERY (114)	59	— 4	— 1	—30	—25
Electrical Machinery, Apparatus and Supplies (31)	84	— 7	+ 2	—31	—18
Machine Tools (21)	33	— 3	0	—43	—40
Material Handling and Power Machinery (15)	38	—10	— 2	—44	—39
Special Purpose Machinery and Appliances (47)	62	+ 5	— 1	—14	—20
METAL PRODUCTS (147)	50	— 7	— 2	—27	—23
Foundry Products and Drop Forgings (29)	49	— 7	— 2	—24	—20
Pipe, Pumps, Valves, Plumbers' Supplies (18)	42	— 4	0	—35	—32
Screw Machine Products and Hardware (20)	49	— 1	— 2	—17	—14
Sheet Metal Work (21)	61	—10	0	—30	—26
Steel Works and Rolling Mills (14)	43	— 8	— 2	—31	—26
Stoves and Furnaces (13)	76	— 2	+ 3	—20	—12
Miscellaneous (32)	62	— 5	— 1	—16	—14
PAPER & PRINTING (49)	89	— 1	+ 1	—11	— 9
Paper, Including Stationery (11)	90	— 1	0	—12	—10
Printing and Publishing (28)	93	0	0	— 6	— 7
Miscellaneous (10)	77	— 2	+ 1	—19	—11
RUBBER PRODUCTS (21)	61	— 6	— 2	—10	— 7
Tires and Tubes (12)	60	— 6	— 2	—10	— 6
Miscellaneous (9)	69	— 8	— 2	— 5	—20
STONE, CLAY AND GLASS PRODUCTS (64)	50	— 5	+ 4	—31	—22
Brick and Tile (26)	39	0	— 2	—29	—32
Glass (13)	78	— 9	+ 7	—39	—14
Vitreous and Semi-Vitreous China and Pottery (10)	37	— 3	+ 8	—37	—27
Miscellaneous (15)	51	— 5	+ 1	—11	—22
TEXTILES (43)	71	— 5	+ 2	—20	—10
Men's Clothing (17)	86	— 5	+ 1	—16	— 5
Miscellaneous (26)	62	— 5	+ 2	—21	—13
VEHICLES (49)	49	—10	— 4	—35	—30
Autos and Parts (41)	53	—10	— 4	—34	—29
Cars, Steam and Street Railway (4)	20	—10	— 3	—32	—45
Miscellaneous (4)	36	—12	— 3	—46	—32
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURING (45)	83	— 7	+ 1	—18	—11
Non-Manufacturing (80)	71	— 2	— 1	—13	—10
SERVICE (41)	95	— 3	— 1	—13	— 8
TRADE (Ret. & Whole.) (25)	72	— 2	— 1	—11	— 7
TRANSPORTATION AND PUB. UTILITIES (14)	76	— 2	0	—13	—13
Construction (151)	39	+ 2	+ 1	—36	—43
BRICK, STONE AND CEMENT WORK (11)	20	— 2	+ 1	—57	—65
GEN. CONTRACTING (88)	25	— 6	0	—51	—55
PLUMBING AND STEAMFITTING (10)	33	—16	+ 7	—65	—49
STREET, ROAD AND SEWER WORK (20)	158	+38	+ 5	+18	+12
MISCELLANEOUS (22)	81	+ 3	+ 4	—21	—31
All Industries (873)	61	— 5	— 1	—22	—18

* Figures in parentheses indicate number of reporting firms.

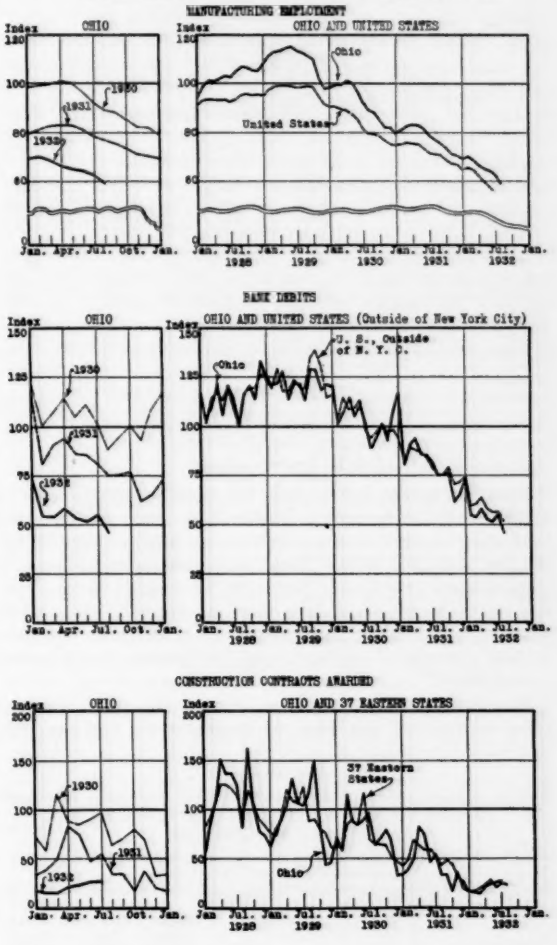
Ohio Construction Contracts Awarded

The value of construction contracts awarded in Ohio in August declined 26 per cent from July as compared with an average decline of 19 per cent during the past 5-year period. The August decline from July in Ohio in the value of construction contracts was somewhat greater than the 4 per cent decline in the United States as a whole. Value of contracts awarded in Ohio during August was 39 per cent below August, 1931, whereas in the United States as a whole the decline amounted to 45 per cent.

CHART I

BUSINESS CONDITIONS IN OHIO
In Each Series Average Month 1926 Equals 100

Sources: Bureau of Business Research, U. S. Department of Labor, Federal Reserve Board, and F. W. Dodge Corporation.



Agricultural Income in Ohio

Gross cash agricultural income from 6 important sources in Ohio was 10 per cent greater in August than in July. The August increase in gross cash income was due primarily to the increase in the price of grains, although price increases in poultry and eggs and potatoes also contributed. The August increase from July in gross cash agricultural income was in contrast with an average August decline of 6 per cent during the past 5-year period. Gross cash agricultural income in August, however, was 18 per cent less than in August of last year, and, for the first 8 months of 1932, 28 per cent less than in the corresponding period of 1931. Further declines were experienced in August in gross cash income from meat animals, dairy products, and wool. The August increase in gross cash income from grain was in contrast with an average

August decline of 5 per cent during the past 5-year period. The August cash income from grains, however, was 2 per cent less than in August of last year. As compared with August, 1931, only the wool group showed an increase in gross cash income. The declines in the other groups ranged from 2 per cent in the grains group to 32 per cent in the potatoes group, and amounted to 21 per cent in the poultry and eggs group, 24 per cent in the meat animals group, and 26 per cent in the dairy products group.

TABLE II

GROSS CASH AGRICULTURAL INCOME IN OHIO, AUGUST, 1932

(Average of the 60 Months 1924-28 Equals 100)

Source: Department of Rural Economics, Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station

Commodity	(*) Index Aug., 1932	Change Aug., 1932 from July, 1932	Average Change August from July, 1927-1931	Change Aug., 1932 from Aug., 1931	Average Jan.-Aug., 1932 Change from 1931
		%	%	%	%
Meat Animals	34	— 6	— 10	— 24	— 33
Dairy Products	45	— 4	— 11	— 26	— 27
Grains	65	+ 30	— 5	— 2	— 1
Poultry and Eggs	53	+ 13	— 4	— 21	— 26
Potatoes	90	+429	+652	— 32	— 29
Wool	45	— 15	— 77	+ 67	— 57
Tobacco	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	46	+ 10	— 6	— 18	— 28

* Preliminary estimate and subject to later revision.

Automobile Bill-of-Sale Registrations

New passenger automobile bill-of-sale registrations in Ohio declined 6 per cent in August from July. Truck registrations in August increased 19 per cent from July. In the 7 chief counties of the State new passenger automobile registrations dropped 4 per cent in August from July, and were 34 per cent less than in August, 1931, while total registrations in these counties for the first 8 months of 1932 dropped 41 per cent from the corresponding period of last year.

The Ford held first position in new car sales in the 7 chief counties of the State in August with 31.3 per cent of the total registrations, as compared with 39 per cent in July and 32 per cent in June. The Chevrolet continued to hold second rank with 19.2 per cent of total sales in August. The Plymouth, which held second rank in April, with 16.7 per cent of total registrations, and third rank in June with 14.7 per cent and July with 11.3 per cent of the total registrations, retained third rank in August with only 12.8 per cent of the total.

TABLE III

TOTAL BILL-OF-SALE REGISTRATIONS OF FIFTEEN LEADING MAKES OF NEW PASSENGER AUTOMOBILES IN SEVEN OHIO COUNTIES*

Source: Actual Registrations Secured from National Automobile Dealers' Association

Make of Car	Aug., 1932 Per Cent of Total	Number of Cars		Change Aug., 1932 from July, 1932	Change Aug., 1932 from Aug., 1931	Total Jan.-Aug., 1932 Change from 1931
		July, 1932	Aug., 1932			
				%	%	%
Ford	31.3	1,248	946	— 24	— 4	— 58
Chevrolet	19.2	603	579	— 4	— 43	— 44
Plymouth	12.8	357	388	+ 9	— 53	+ 60
Essex	6.1	56	185	+230	+ 85	— 34
DeSoto	3.4	109	104	— 5	— 4	+ 30
Pontiac-Oakland	3.4	87	103	+ 18	— 40	— 45
Buick	2.7	80	83	+ 4	— 28	— 33
Willys	2.4	66	73	+ 11	— 27	— 51
Chrysler	2.0	58	59	+ 2	— 59	— 47
Oldsmobile	2.0	32	59	+ 84	— 45	— 60
Graham	1.9	35	57	+ 63	— 10	— 25
Auburn	1.7	99	53	— 46	— 29	— 57
Packard	1.5	32	44	+ 38	— 41	— 26
Dodge	1.4	50	41	— 18	— 64	— 33
Studebaker	1.4	42	41	— 2	— 63	— 48
Group Total	93.2	2,954	2,815	— 5	—	—
All Others	6.8	199	206	— 4	—	—
Grand Total	100.0	3,153	3,021	— 4	— 34	— 41

* Cuyahoga, Franklin, Hamilton, Lucas, Mahoning, Montgomery, and Summit.

TABLE IV

REGISTRATIONS OF NEW AUTOMOBILE BILLS OF SALE IN OHIO COUNTIES, AUGUST, 1932

(The Counties Listed Represent Over 80 Per Cent of the Population of Ohio)

Source: Clerks of Courts of Listed Counties

County	Passenger Cars			Trucks		
	July, 1932	Aug., 1932	Change from July, 1932	July, 1932	Aug., 1932	Change from July, 1932
			%			%
Adams	14	12	— 14	0	3	—
Allen	80	64	— 20	16	8	— 50
Ashtabula	81	67	— 17	7	8	+ 14
Athens	20	32	+ 60	4	3	— 25
Belmont	51	48	— 6	8	13	+ 63
Brown	19	9	— 53	0	2	—
Butler	114	64	— 44	20	8	— 60
Carroll	7	6	— 14	0	0	—
Champaign	45	27	— 40	0	4	—
Columbiana	65	55	— 15	5	6	+ 20
Cuyahoga	1,133	1,069	— 6	123	85	— 31
Darke	23	24	+ 4	13	4	— 69
Defiance	22	17	— 23	4	1	— 75
Fairfield	43	42	— 2	2	6	+200
Fayette	14	26	+ 86	1	6	+500
Franklin	446	481	+ 8	40	70	+ 75
Fulton	47	39	— 17	2	2	0
Gallia	21	17	— 19	1	2	+100
Geauga	11	3	— 73	2	1	— 50
Guernsey	40	14	— 65	0	2	—
Hamilton	670	630	— 6	56	115	+105
Hancock	20	32	+ 60	18	3	— 83
Henry	29	22	— 24	4	—	—
Highland	15	20	+ 33	1	2	+100
Hocking	11	16	+ 45	3	3	0
Huron	42	23	— 45	5	2	— 60
Jackson	27	25	— 7	2	10	+400
Jefferson	50	44	— 12	3	6	+100
Knox	20	15	— 25	0	3	—
Lake	48	50	+ 4	3	3	0
Lawrence	25	21	— 16	4	3	— 25
Licking	47	—	—	7	—	—
Logan	24	13	— 46	2	6	+200
Lorain	86	77	— 10	5	9	+ 80
Lucas	242	260	+ 7	26	25	— 4
Madison	18	20	+ 11	3	9	+200
Mahoning	98	117	+ 12	13	17	+ 31
Marion	47	38	— 19	5	4	— 20
Medina	31	30	— 3	7	3	— 57
Meigs	18	18	0	0	5	—
Miami	39	40	+ 3	5	3	— 40
Montgomery	232	196	— 16	19	26	+ 37
Morgan	5	4	— 20	0	1	—
Morrow	4	7	+ 75	2	0	—
Muskingum	53	60	+ 13	8	7	— 13
Ottawa	13	27	+108	2	3	+ 50
Paulding	28	—	—	3	—	—
Perry	20	21	+ 5	4	9	+125
Portage	34	29	— 15	30	43	+ 43
Ross	30	33	+ 10	3	2	— 33
Scioto	39	50	+ 28	4	5	+ 25
Seneca	34	31	— 9	4	4	0
Shelby	15	12	— 20	10	9	— 10
Summit	320	268	— 16	25	42	+ 68
Trumbull	43	44	+ 2	9	5	— 44
Union	9	14	+ 56	2	6	+200
Van Wert	21	22	+ 5	3	0	—
Warren	16	14	— 13	0	2	—
Washington	40	59	+ 48	4	4	0
Wayne	66	36	— 45	6	5	— 17
Williams	34	29	— 15	2	14	+600
Wood	26	36	+ 38	—	—	—
Wyandot	16	12	— 25	5	—	—
Actual Total	5,001	4,633	— 6	565	652	+ 19

Hotel Business in Ohio

Room occupancy in Ohio hotels increased to 39.4 per cent of capacity in August from 37.2 per cent of capacity in July, an increase of 6 per cent for the month. The average rate per room increased from $2.60 to $2.65. The increase in both room occupancy and the average rate per room resulted in an increase of 8 per cent in room receipts

in August from July. Food receipts in August increased 2 per cent from July. As compared with August, 1931, room receipts declined 35 per cent, and food receipts, 31 per cent, while for the first 8 months of 1932 room receipts dropped 30 per cent and food receipts, 28 per cent.

TABLE V

INDICES OF BUSINESS IN OHIO HOTELS

Based on Average Daily Values, 1929 Equals 100
Source: Individual Reports

Item	July, 1932	Aug.,* 1932	Percentage Change: Aug., 1932 from July, 1932	Aug., 1932 from Aug., 1931	Jan.-Aug., 1932 from Jan.-Aug., 1931
Per Cent of Rooms Occupied	37.2	39.4	% +6	% —24	% —19
Avg. Rate per Room	$2.60	$2.65	+2	—14	—13
	Index	Index			
Room Receipts	44.8	48.3	+8	—35	—30
Food Receipts	34.0	34.5	+2	—31	—28

* Subject to revision.

Industrial Consumption of Electric Power

The industrial consumption of electric power declined 8 per cent in July from June in the State as a whole, as compared with an average July increase of 1 per cent during the past 5-year period. Dayton and Toledo power consumption in July declined 10 per cent and 12 per cent respectively from June. As compared with July, 1931, electric power consumption declined 19 per cent in the State as a whole, 25 per cent in Dayton, and 29 per cent in Toledo. For the first 7 months of 1932, electric power consumption in the State declined 12 per cent from the corresponding period of 1931.

TABLE VI

INDUSTRIAL CONSUMPTION OF ELECTRIC POWER IN OHIO

Average Month 1926 Equals 100
Source: Local Power Companies

City	Index July, 1932	Change July, 1932 from June, 1932	Average Change July, from June, 1927-1931	Change July, 1932 from July, 1931	Average Jan.-July, 1932 Change from 1931
		%	%	%	%
Dayton	—	—10	—	—25	—
Toledo	89	—12	— 5	—29	—21
STATE*	90	— 8	+ 1	—19	—12

* Total power production from *U. S. Geological Survey*.

Building Occupancy in Six Ohio Cities

Building occupancy as indicated by the number of gas meters in use declined in July from June in 6 Ohio cities and was substantially less than in July, 1931, in all of the cities except Akron, which showed a slight increase. For the first 7 months of 1932 as compared with the same period of last year, building occupancy declined in all of the cities except Akron, which showed an increase of .6 of 1 per cent. The declines in the other cities amounted to 1.2 per cent in Columbus, 2.5 per cent in Cleveland, and 3.5 per cent in Canton and Cincinnati.

TABLE VII

BUILDING OCCUPANCY IN SIX OHIO CITIES
(As Indicated by Number of Gas Meters in Use)

Average Month 1926 Equals 100
Source: Local Gas Companies

City	Index July, 1932	Change July, 1932 from June, 1932	Average Change July from June, 1927-1931	Change July, 1932 from July, 1931	Average Jan.-July, 1932 Change from 1931
		%	%	%	%
Akron	116.7	—1.5	—0.6	+1.8	+0.6
Canton	97.3	—1.9	—1.0	—4.0	—3.5
Cincinnati*	94.2	—0.7	—	—5.3	—3.5
Cleveland	97.6	—2.0	—1.0	—3.4	—2.5
Columbus	108.9	—0.4	—0.3	—2.0	—1.2
Youngstown	106.9	—2.1	—1.0	—4.3	—4.0

* Average month 1931 = 100.

Summary of Business Conditions in Ohio Cities

All of the 8 chief cities of the State reported employment declines in August from July, and in all the cities except Canton the declines were either greater than the average August decline during the past 5 years or in contrast with an average increase. In Canton, the decline was about the same as the average for the past 5 years. In the other cities the declines ranged from 1 per cent in Columbus to 10 per cent in Dayton, and amounted to 2 per cent in Cincinnati, 3 per cent in Cleveland, 4 per cent in Youngstown, and 5 per cent in Toledo. As compared with August, 1931, total employment declined in all the chief cities, the declines ranging from 8 per cent in Columbus to 34 per cent in Toledo and Stark County, and amounting to 14 per cent in Akron, 17 per cent in Cincinnati, 23 per cent in Cleveland, 24 per cent in Youngstown, and 28 per cent in Dayton.

Manufacturing employment declined in all the chief cities of the State. The declines in Akron, Cleveland, Dayton, and Toledo, were greater than the average August

TABLE VIII

SUMMARY OF BUSINESS CONDITIONS IN OHIO CITIES
AUGUST, 1932

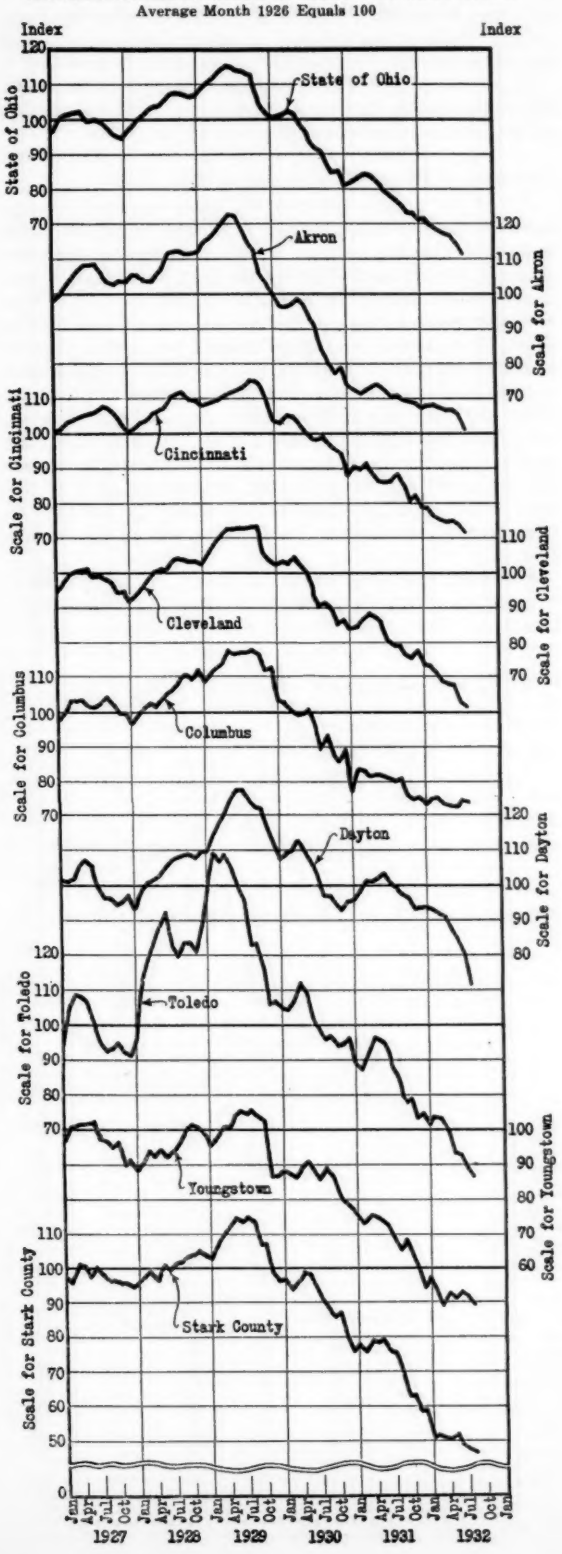
City	Change Aug., 1932 from July, 1932	Average Change Aug., from July, 1927-31	Change Aug., 1932 from Aug., 1931	Change Aug., 1932 from July, 1932	Average Change Aug., from July, 1927-31	Change Aug., 1932 from Aug., 1931
	Industrial Employment			Manufacturing Employment		
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Akron	— 7	— 2	—14	— 7	— 2	—13
Canton	— 2	— 2	—34	— 2	— 2	—34
Cincinnati	— 2	+ 1	—17	— 3	+ 1	—21
Cleveland	— 3	0	—23	— 4	— 1	—25
Columbus	— 1	0	— 8	— 1	0	— 9
Dayton	—10	— 2	—28	—12	— 3	—28
Toledo	— 5	— 3	—34	— 6	— 4	—36
Youngstown	— 4	+ 1	—24	— 4	+ 1	—29
Other than 8 Cities	— 5	+ 1	—25	— 6	0	—26
STATE	— 5	— 1	—22	— 5	— 1	—23
City	Construction Employment			Passenger Automobile Bills of Sale Filed		
Akron	—14	+ 6	—62	—16	— 8	—39
Canton	— 3	0	—53	—	—	—
Cincinnati	— 1	+ 1	—35	— 6	— 6	—33
Cleveland	+ 7	— 3	—37	— 6	—11	—40
Columbus	+18	+ 3	—14	+ 8	—15	— 3
Dayton	+10	— 1	—53	—16	— 7	—52
Toledo	—16	+10	—55	+ 7	— 6	— 2
Youngstown	—29	+ 9	—76	+19	— 7	—41
Other than 8 Cities	+ 9	+ 5	—15	— 9	—10	—
STATE	+ 2	+ 1	—36	— 6	—	—
City	Bank Debits			Value of Construction Contracts Awarded*		
Akron	—11	—12	—46	+90	— 2	—35
Canton	—11	—15	—54	—50	+52	—28
Cincinnati	—19	—13	—26	—20	+13	—49
Cleveland	—21	—11	—42	—27	—38	—59
Columbus	—14	— 9	—40	—89	—19	—50
Dayton	— 7	—16	—36	+145	+60	—80
Toledo	— 1	—15	—33	—85	+18	—93
Youngstown	— 7	— 7	—59	—49	—19	—86
Other than 8 Cities	—11	— 1	—39	—14	—32	—22
STATE	—16	—11	—39	—26	—19	—39

* From F. W. Dodge Corporation.

CHART II

INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT IN OHIO AND OHIO CITIES

Average Month 1926 Equals 100



declines during the past 5 years, and the declines in Cincinnati and Youngstown were in contrast with average August increases. The 2 per cent decline in Stark County, however, was no greater than the average August decline, and the 1 per cent decline in Columbus was in contrast with the usual stability in August.

Non-manufacturing employment declined in all the chief cities of the State except Columbus and Toledo, both of which reported increases of 1 per cent as compared with average August declines of 1 per cent. In Stark County non-manufacturing employment in August remained unchanged from July, which was in line with the usual August situation.

Construction employment increased in Cleveland, Columbus, and Dayton, but declined in all the other chief cities. The increases in Cleveland and Dayton were in contrast with average August declines in those cities, and the increase in Columbus was considerably greater than the average August increase. The declines in all the other cities, however, were in contrast with average August increases during the past 5-year period.

Bank debits declined in August from July in all the chief cities of the State, the declines ranging from 1 per cent in Toledo to 21 per cent in Cleveland, and amounting to 7 per cent in Dayton and Youngstown, 11 per cent in Akron and Canton, 14 per cent in Columbus, and 19 per cent in Cincinnati. The decline in Youngstown was no greater than the average August decline, and the declines in Akron, Canton, Dayton, and Toledo were less than the average August decline. In Cincinnati, Cleveland, and Columbus, however, the declines were greater than average. As compared with August, 1931, the declines in bank debits ranged from 26 per cent in Cincinnati to 59 per cent in Youngstown, and amounted to 33 per cent in Toledo, 36 per cent in Dayton, 40 per cent in Columbus, 42 per cent in Cleveland, 46 per cent in Akron, and 54 per cent in Canton.

Passenger automobile bill-of-sale registrations increased in August from July in Columbus, Toledo, and Youngstown, but declined in Akron, Cincinnati, Cleveland, and Dayton. In the 3 cities to show an increase in registrations in August, the increases were in contrast with average August declines during the past 5-year period, and in 2 of the cities to show a decline—Cincinnati and Cleveland—the declines were no greater than average or less than average. The declines in Akron and Dayton, however, were greater than average. As compared with August, 1931, all the chief cities of the State showed declines in registrations in August of this year ranging from 2 per cent in Toledo to 52 per cent in Dayton, and amounting to 3 per cent in Columbus, 33 per cent in Cincinnati, 39 per cent in Akron, 40 per cent in Cleveland, and 41 per cent in Youngstown.

The value of construction contracts awarded in Ohio in August declined 26 per cent from July as compared with an average August decline of 19 per cent during the past 5 years. In Akron and Dayton, construction contracts increased in August from July, the increase in Akron amounting to 90 per cent and in Dayton to 145 per cent. The increase in Akron was in contrast with an average August decline of 2 per cent, and the increase in Dayton was substantially greater than the average August increase of 60 per cent. The declines in the other cities amounted to 20 per cent in Cincinnati, 27 per cent in Cleveland, 50 per cent in Canton, 85 per cent in Toledo, and 89 per cent in Columbus. The decline in Cleveland was slightly less than the average August decline, but the declines in the other cities were either greater than

the average August declines or in contrast with an average increase during the past 5 years. As compared with August, 1931, the value of construction contracts awarded declined in all the cities, the declines ranging from 35 per cent in Akron to 93 per cent in Toledo and amounting to 49 per cent in Cincinnati, 50 per cent in Columbus, 59 per cent in Cleveland, 80 per cent in Dayton, and 98 per cent in Canton.

The Trend of Business

Banking and Credit Conditions

Interest rates in August showed little variation from July. The call money rate of 2 per cent and the time money rate (4-6 months) at 1.25 per cent on September 3 remained unchanged from the previous month. The commercial paper (60-90 days) rate at 2 per cent represented a decline of 6 per cent from the corresponding date of last month. During the past 5 years, August has averaged a slight increase in the call money rate and a slight decline in the time money rate.

The security-buying movement of the Federal Reserve banks was temporarily suspended during August and on September 7 the investment in United States securities was substantially the same as on the same day of the previous month. During the same period, the holdings of bills bought in the open market declined 17 per cent. Member-bank rediscounts, which increased slightly in July, declined 14 per cent in August, although during the past 5 years member-bank rediscounts have averaged an increase of 6 per cent in August.

TABLE IX
BANKING CONDITIONS
(All Dollar Values in Millions of Dollars)
Sources: Federal Reserve Board and *Journal of Commerce*

Item	Latest Data	Change from Corresponding Period of Previous Month	Av. Change from Corresponding Period of Previous Month, 1927-31	Change from Corresponding Period of Previous Year	Year to Date Change from Corresponding Period of Previous Year
INDEX OF BANK DEBITS*, August, 1932:		%	%	%	%
Ohio	46	— 16	— 11	— 39	— 37
United States outside of New York City	52	— 9	— 6	— 31	— 29
New York City	48	+ 8	— 6	— 24	— 38
INTEREST RATES: September 3, 1932:					
Call Money	2.00%	0	+ 2	+ 33	+ 61
Commercial Paper (60-90 days)	2.00%	— 6	0	0	+ 33
Time Money (4-6 months)	1.25%	0	— 1	— 23	+ 21
New York Federal Reserve Rediscount Rate	2.50%	0	0	+ 67	+ 71
FEDERAL RESERVE BANK ITEMS—September 7, 1932:					
Investment in U. S. Securities	$1,850.9	0	+ 4	+154	+101
Bills Bought in Open Market	33.6	— 17	+ 80	— 83	— 38
Member Banks Rediscounts	420.4	— 14	+ 6	+104	+219
Reserve Ratio	59.2%	+ 3	— 2	— 26	— 36
LOANS TO BROKERS September 7, 1932:					
(New York City)	$ 371	+ 12	0	— 72	— 72
REPORTING MEMBER BANK ITEMS—September 7, 1932:					
Loans on Securities	4,519	— 2	— 1	— 30	— 27
Loans, All Others	6,293	— 1	+ 1	— 20	— 16
Investments, U. S. Govt. Securities	4,535	+ 1	— 1	+ 12	+ 9
Investments, All Others	3,217	0	— 1	— 11	— 13
Reserves with Federal Reserve Banks	1,703	+ 9	0	— 6	— 13
Cash in Vault	206	+ 2	+ 3	— 9	— 5
Net Demand Deposits	11,011	+ 2	— 1	— 17	— 18
Time Deposits	5,622	0	+ 1	— 20	— 21
Government Deposits	147	— 59	— 74	+250	+151
MONEY IN CIRCULATION, September 7, 1932	5,725	0	+ 2	+ 14	+ 18

* Average month 1926 = 100.

Loans and investments of reporting member-banks continued to decline throughout August in all classes of investments except Government securities. At the beginning of September reporting member-bank loans on securities had declined 2 per cent from the corresponding date of the previous month, while "all other loans" had declined 1 per cent. The 1 per cent decline in August from July in "all other loans," representing primarily loans for business and industrial expansion, was in contrast with an average August increase of 1 per cent during the past 5-year period, and the total volume of such loans on September 7 was 20 per cent below the total on the corresponding date of last year. "All other investments," representing the employment of bank surpluses in commercial enterprises largely through the purchase of bonds and securities, showed no expansion in August after having declined 1 per cent during the previous month. The total amount of such investments on September 7 was 11 per cent less than on the corresponding date of last month, and for the first 8 months of this year funds employed in this type of investment declined 13 per cent from the corresponding period of last year.

The index of money in circulation was carried to a new high point during July and August due to the wave of hoarding accompanying the increase in bank failures. No further expansion of the volume of money in circulation occurred during August, however, and on September 7 the volume of money in circulation was substantially the same as on the corresponding date of last month. As compared with September 7, 1931, the amount of money in circulation increased 14 per cent, and for the first 8 months of this year the volume of money in circulation was 18 per cent greater than during the corresponding period of last year. Member-bank reserves with Federal Reserve banks, as well as cash in vaults, increased during August. Net demand deposits were slightly greater and time deposits were unchanged.

Construction Contracts Awarded

Construction activity in the United States, as indicated by the daily average value of construction contracts awarded, declined 4 per cent in August from July, which was less than the average August decline, amounting to 14 per cent during the past 5-year period. The value of building contracts declined 6 per cent in August from July and of public works and utilities contracts, 1 per cent. During the past 5-year period the decline in building contracts in August has averaged 11 per cent, and in public works and utilities contracts, 24 per cent. Thus, when corrected for seasonal change the 4 per cent decline in August from July represents a seasonal gain. The value of commercial building contracts and of public utilities contracts

increased in August from July, as compared with average August declines in both cases. The total value of contracts awarded in these two building groups, however, is relatively small compared with the total of all contracts awarded.

As compared with August, 1931, the value of total construction declined 45 per cent. Building contracts for this same period declined 58 per cent, and public works and utilities contracts, 16 per cent. For the first 8 months of 1932, as compared with the same period of 1931, the value of all contracts awarded fell 60 per cent. For this same period, the value of both building contracts awarded and of public works and utilities contracts awarded declined 60 per cent.

In 6 of the 13 districts, there was an increase in the daily average value of contracts awarded in August as compared with July. The gains in these 6 districts ranged from 7 per cent in the Pittsburgh District to 90 per cent in the Southeastern Territory and amounted to 17 per cent in the New Orleans Territory, 22 per cent in Metropolitan New York and Vicinity, 38 per cent in Upstate New York,

TABLE X

DAILY AVERAGE VALUE OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS AWARDED IN 37 EASTERN STATES BY TYPES AND BY DISTRICTS

(In Hundreds of Dollars)

Source: F. W. Dodge Corporation

Type and District	Aug., 1932	Change Aug., 1932 from July, 1932	Average Change Aug., from July, 1927-1931	Change Aug., 1932 from Aug., 1931	Total Jan.-Aug., 1932 Change from 1931
		%	%	%	%
TOTAL CONSTRUCTION....	$49,625	— 4	— 14	— 45	— 60
By Types					
Total Building.....	25,866	— 6	— 11	— 58	— 60
Residential.....	7,691	— 3	— 7	— 67	— 67
Non-Residential....	18,175	— 7	— 14	— 53	— 55
Commercial.....	6,799	+106	— 24	— 7	— 57
Educational	2,039	— 20	— 24	— 72	— 65
Factories.....	1,239	— 12	— 10	— 32	— 68
Miscellaneous....	8,098	— 34	— 3	— 63	— 44
Pub. Works and Util..	23,759	— 1	— 24	— 16	— 60
Public Works	21,010	— 4	— 26	— 10	— 54
Public Utilities.....	2,749	+ 25	— 13	— 42	— 76
By Districts					
New England.....	3,786	— 7	— 8	— 61	— 63
Metropolitan New York and Vicinity..	5,785	+ 22	— 4	— 71	— 75
Upstate New York...	4,261	+ 38	— 31	— 37	— 57
Middle Atlantic.....	7,669	— 30	— 32	+ 21	— 32
Pittsburgh.....	6,146	+ 7	— 17	— 20	— 58
Chicago Territory....	7,348	+ 49	+ 4	— 57	— 58
Southern Michigan...	930	— 27	— 13	— 47	— 57
Central Northwest...	2,937	— 22	— 10	+ 2	— 34
St. Louis Territory...	2,520	— 46	+ 5	— 42	— 46
Kansas City Territory	1,788	— 42	— 6	— 48	— 63
Texas.....	2,060	— 17	— 22	— 54	— 71
New Orleans Ter.....	1,142	+ 17	— 27	— 56	— 81
Southeastern Ter.....	3,253	+ 90	— 3	+ 1	— 54

and 49 per cent in the Chicago Territory. In all of these 6 districts except the Chicago Territory, the August gain from July was in contrast with an average August decline during the past 5-year period. The increase in the Chicago Territory was substantially greater than the average August increase. In the other 7 districts, the declines ranged from 7 per cent in the New England District to 46 per cent in the St. Louis Territory, and amounted to 17 per cent in the Texas District, 22 per cent in the Central Northwestern District, 27 per cent in Southern Michigan District, 30 per cent in the Middle Atlantic District, and 42 per cent in the Kansas City Territory.

As compared with August, 1931, the Central Northwestern District, the Middle Atlantic District, and the Southeastern Territory showed increases in August. The declines from August of last year in the other districts ranged from 20 per cent in the Pittsburgh District to 71 per cent in Metropolitan New York and Vicinity. For the first 8 months of 1932, as compared with the same period of 1931, the value of contracts awarded declined more than 50 per cent in all but 3 districts—the Middle Atlantic, the Central Northwestern, and St. Louis Territory.

Iron and Steel

Although new all-time lows in pig iron and steel production were established in July, there was a further decline in August of 7 per cent in pig iron production and of 3 per cent in steel production. During the past 5 years pig iron production in August has averaged a decline of only 2 per cent, while steel production has remained fairly constant. Thus, the August decline in both pig iron and steel production were greater-than-average declines. As

TABLE XI

IRON AND STEEL CONDITIONS

Sources: *Steel* and *Iron Age*

Item	Aug., 1932	Change Aug., 1932 from July, 1932	Average Change Aug., from July, 1927-31	Change Aug., 1932 from Aug., 1931	Average Jan.-Aug., 1932 Change from 1931
PRICES:		%	%	%	%
Pig Iron (per ton)..	$ 13.69	— 1	— 1	— 12	— 10
Finished Steel (per lb.)	.01971	0	0	— 2	— 3
Scrap-Heavy Melting Steel (per gross ton)	6.93	+ 7	+ 2	— 24	— 26
UNFILLED ORDERS, U. S. STEEL CORP.: (Tons)	1,969,595	0	— 5	— 38	— 39
OPERATIONS:					
Av. Daily Pig Iron Prod. (tons):					
Ohio	5,288	0	— 4	— 47	— 47
United States	17,115	— 7	— 2	— 59	— 55
Average U. S. Daily Steel Production: (Tons)	30,830	— 3	0	— 53	— 51

compared with August, 1931, pig iron production in the United States declined 59 per cent and steel production, 53 per cent. The decline in pig iron production in Ohio from August of last year amounted to only 47 per cent. For the first 8 months of 1932 as compared with the same period of last year steel production declined 51 per cent, and pig iron production, 55 per cent. In Ohio, the decline in pig iron production amounted to 47 per cent. Although finished steel prices remained substantially unchanged during July and August, pig iron prices continued to decline, and scrap prices improved somewhat. The August increase in scrap prices was greater than the average August increase. During the first 2 weeks in August a firmer tendency was reported in both iron and steel prices.

The unfilled orders of the United States Steel Corporation remained substantially unchanged in August from July, although unfilled orders during the past 5-year period have averaged a decline of 5 per cent in August. For the first 8 months of this year, as compared with the same period of last year, the unfilled orders of the United States Steel Corporation declined 39 per cent.

During the first 2 weeks of September there was a rise in the steel operating rate, the National average on September 10 being reported as 15 to 16 per cent. The magazine, *Steel*, reports that "sentiment continues strong with an increase in the country's steel requirements from now on regarded as certain."

The Stock Market

Stock prices continued to advance throughout August for the first 2 days of September, with only minor interruptions. All stocks have been included in the advance to some extent. On September 7, the index of 421 stocks combined had increased 19.2 points from August 3, and the index of 351 industrials, 17.2 points. Thirty-seven utilities recorded a gain of 30 points during the same period, and 33 rails, of 17.2 points.

TABLE XII

INDEXES OF COMMON STOCK PRICES

Source: Standard Statistics Company

Groups	Sept. 7, 1932	Change in Points from Aug. 3, 1932	1932 Range	
			High	Low
421 Stocks Combined	64.1	+ 19.2	64.1	32.5
351 Industrials	61.6	+ 17.2	61.6	31.9
33 Rails	38.4	+ 17.2	38.6	13.0
37 Utilities	99.4	+ 30.0	99.7	52.9

Automobile Production

The production of passenger automobiles in the United States declined 41 per cent in July from June as compared with an average July decline of 11 per cent during the past 5 years. Truck production in the United States declined 28 per cent in July from June as compared with an average July decline of 15 per cent. The total volume of passenger cars produced in July declined 49 per cent from July of last year, while the total volume of trucks produced declined 52 per cent. For the first 7 months of this year as compared with the same period of last year, passenger-car production fell 45 per cent and truck production, 46 per cent.

General Motors' sales to consumers in the United States declined 42 per cent in July from June, as compared with an average July decline of 13 per cent during the past 3-year period. Sales to dealers in the United States declined 33 per cent in July from June, and sales to dealers in the United States and foreign countries combined, 30 per cent. The July declines in dealers' sales, both domestic and foreign, were substantially greater than the average July declines during the past 3-years. As compared with July of last year General Motors' sales to consumers and to dealers in the United States declined 60 per cent. For the first 7 months of 1932, as compared with the same period of 1931, General Motors' sales to consumers dropped 44 per cent; to dealers in the United States, 47 per cent.

The automobile production records for August indicate a further substantial decline from July in production.

TABLE XIII

AUTOMOBILE PRODUCTION IN THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA, AND GENERAL MOTORS' SALES

Sources: U. S. Department of Commerce and General Motors' Corporation

Group	July, 1932	Change July, 1932 from June, 1932	Average Change July, from June, 1927-31	Change July, 1932 from July, 1931	Total Jan.-July, 1932 Change from 1931
PASSENGER CAR PRODUCTION:		%	%	%	%
United States	94,678	— 41	— 11	— 49	— 45
Canada	6,773	+ 7	— 31	+115	— 28
U. S. and Canada	101,451	— 39	— 12	— 46	— 44
TRUCK PRODUCTION:					
United States	16,434	— 28	— 15	— 52	— 46
Canada	699	— 13	— 18	— 35	— 52
U. S. and Canada	17,133	— 27	— 16	— 52	— 46
GENERAL MOTORS' SALES:					
To Consumers, U.S.	32,849	— 42	— 13*	— 61	— 44
To Dealers, U.S.	31,096	— 33	— 15*	— 60	— 47
To Dealers, U.S. and Foreign	36,872	— 30	— 13	— 58	— 47

* Three-year average change July from June, 1929-1931.

Retail Trade

The report of the Federal Reserve Board on the sales of 494 department stores located in 211 cities of the United States showed a decline of 24 per cent in sales in August as compared with August, 1931, and of 24 per cent for the first 8 months of this year as compared with the same period of last year. The August sales decline was experienced in all the Federal Reserve districts and ranged from 15 per cent in the New York District to 34 per cent in the Cleveland District and amounted to 23 per cent in the Boston, the Philadelphia, the Richmond, the Atlanta, the Minneapolis, and the San Francisco districts, 24 per cent in the Kansas City District, 28 per cent in the Dallas District, and 29 per cent in the Chicago and St. Louis districts. For the first 8 months of 1932, as compared with the same period of last year, department store sales declined in all the districts. The declines for the 8-month period ranged from 21 per cent in New York and the Richmond districts to 29 per cent in Dallas District and amounted to 22 per cent in the Boston, the Philadelphia, and the Minneapolis districts, 24 per cent in the St. Louis and Kansas City Districts, 25 per cent in the San Francisco District, 26 per cent in the Atlanta District, 27 per cent in the Chicago District, and 28 per cent in the Cleveland District.

The Bureau's preliminary index of retail dry goods sales in Ohio for August showed an increase of 2.2 per cent from July as compared with an average August increase of 7.9 per cent during the past 5 years. Dry goods sales in August were 30 per cent below August, 1931, and for the first 8 months of 1932 were 27.1 per cent below the corresponding period of last year.

Retail sales in 31 chain stores and mail-order houses declined 2.2 per cent in August from July and were 16.7 per cent less than in August, 1931. In only 3 of the reporting stores—2 restaurant chains and one miscellaneous chain—did August sales show an increase over July. The August decline from July amounted to 22.2 per cent in 2 shoe chains, 6.1 per cent in 1 department store chain, 3.7 per cent in 1 drug chain, 2.7 per cent in 2 women's apparel chains, 2.6 per cent in 2 mail-order houses, 2.0 per cent in 10 grocery chains, and 0.4 of 1 per cent in 10 five-and-ten-cent store chains. As compared with August, 1931, only 1 of the 31 chains—a miscellaneous chain—showed an increase. In the other groups of chains, the declines ranged from 11.7 per cent in 2 restaurant chains to 31.5 per cent in 2 shoe chains, and amounted to 14.3 per cent in 10 five-and-ten-cent store chains, 14.6 per cent in 10 grocery chains, 18.9 per cent in 1 department store chain, 20.7 per cent in 2 women's apparel chains, 20.8 per cent in 1 drug chain, and 24.7 per cent in 2 mail-order houses. In the 1 miscellaneous chain to show an increase from August of last year, the increase amounted to 5.4 per cent.

Wholesale Prices

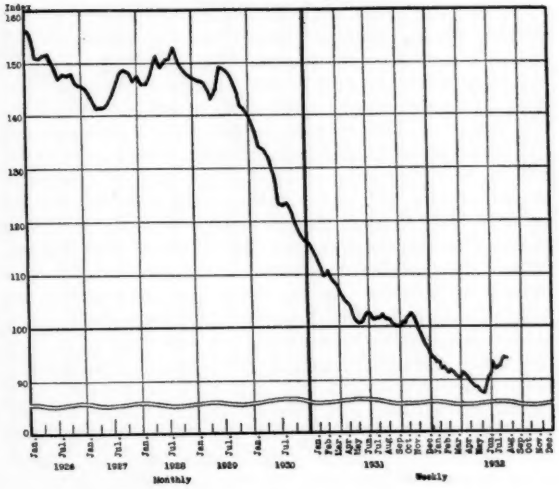
The wholesale commodity price index continued to rise in August, and on September 6 the all-commodity index was 3.7 points higher than on August 2. Farm products and food products continued to contribute largely to the

TABLE XIV
INDICES OF U. S. WHOLESALE PRICES BY COMMODITY GROUPS—SEPTEMBER 6, 1932
Average Month 1913 Equals 100
Source: *The Annalist*

Commodities	Index Aug. 2, 1932	Index Sept. 6, 1932	Change in Points from Aug. 2, 1932	Change in Points from Sept. 8, 1931
Farm Products	71.4	78.4	+ 7.0	— 7.1
Food Products	97.4	101.0	+ 3.6	—10.4
Textile Products	66.4	79.3	+12.9	—10.2
Fuels	143.9	138.6	— 5.3	+12.5
Metals	95.8	97.1	+ 1.3	— 4.6
Building Materials	106.7	106.5	— 0.2	— 9.2
Chemicals	95.2	95.2	0	— 2.0
Miscellaneous	79.4	80.2	+ 0.8	— 7.9
ALL COMMODITIES...	92.5	96.2	+ 3.7	— 5.0

rise in the general index, but textile products made a 13-point gain during August, while metal products joined with a gain of 1.3 points, and miscellaneous products with a gain of .8 of 1 point. Only the fuels and the building materials groups showed continued price declines amounting to 5.3 points in the case of fuels, and .2 of 1 point in the case of building materials. The prices of chemical products remained substantially unchanged in August from July. The increase in wholesale prices during the past 10 weeks has carried the index to within 5 points of the level maintained on September 8 of last year. In only the fuels group, however, did September prices go beyond September of last year. Prices in all other groups of commodities in September were still below the level of September, 1931, the chemicals by 2 points, the metals by 4.6 points, farm products by 7.1 points, the miscellaneous group by 7.9 points, building materials by 9.2 points, textile products by 10.2 points, and food products by 10.4 points.

CHART III
INDEX OF WHOLESALE PRICES
Monthly, 1926-30; Weekly, January 1931-August 24, 1932
Average Month 1913 Equals 100
Source: *The Annalist*



Foreign Trade and Prices

There was a substantial decline in July from June in both the merchandise exports and imports of the United States. The relatively greater decline in imports than in exports, however, left an excess of exports for July which was substantially greater than the June excess. For the first 7 months of 1932, as compared with the same period of last year, merchandise exports declined 37 per cent and merchandise imports, 35 per cent. The excess of exports for this same period declined 44 per cent. Both gold exports and gold imports declined in July from June, but gold exports were slightly larger than imports, so that there was an excess of gold exports. The small July excess of gold exports, however, was relatively insignificant as compared with the June excess.

TABLE XV
FOREIGN TRADE OF LEADING NATIONS
(In Millions)
Sources: U. S. Department of Commerce and *The Annalist*

Country	June, 1932	July,* 1932	Change July, 1932 from June, 1932	Change July, 1932 from July, 1931	Total Jan.-July, 1932 Change from 1931
UNITED STATES: (Dollars)			%	%	%
Merchandise Exports...	$ 114.3	$ 107.0	— 6	— 41	— 37
Merchandise Imports...	111.4	79.0	— 29	— 55	— 35
Excess of Exports.....	2.9	28.0	+866	+352	— 44
Gold Exports.....	226.117	23.474	— 90	**	**
Gold Imports.....	20.070	16.334	— 19	— 20	— 37
Excess of Exports.....	206.047	7.140	— 97	†	†
UNITED KINGDOM: (Pounds Sterling)					
Exports	29.7	29.3	— 1	— 15	— 7
Imports	57.5	51.9	— 10	— 26	— 16
Excess of Imports.....	27.8	22.6	— 19	— 37	— 23
GERMANY (Marks)					
Exports	454.0	432.0	— 5	— 48	— 39
Imports	364.0	366.0	+ 1	— 35	— 37
Excess of Exports.....	90.0	66.0	— 27	— 75	— 46
CANADA (Canadian Dollars)					
Exports	40.945	42.121	+ 3	— 15	— 22
Imports	40.743	35.710	— 12	— 26	— 31
Excess of Imports.....	—0.202	—6.411	**	+406	— 80

* United States figures subject to revision.
** Over 1000 per cent increase.
† Excess of imports in comparable period.

The merchandise exports of the United Kingdom declined 1 per cent in July from June and 15 per cent from July, 1931, and exports for the first 7 months of 1932 were 7 per cent below the same period of last year. The decline in Great Britains' imports, however, was relatively greater than the decline in exports. The decline in imports amounted to 10 per cent in July from June, 26 per cent from July, 1931, and 16 per cent for the first 7 months of this year, as compared with the same period of last year. Great Britain's excess of imports declined 19 per cent in July from June, 37 per cent from July, 1931, and 23 per cent for the first 7 months of this year, as compared with the same period of last year.

The merchandise exports of Germany declined 5 per cent

TABLE XVI
INTERNATIONAL WHOLESALE PRICE INDICES
1926 = 100
Source: *Journal of Commerce*

Country	Index Aug. 5, 1932	Index Sept. 4, 1932	Change in points from Aug. 5, 1932	Change in points from Sept. 4, 1931
United States: (Fisher's)	61.1	62.5	+ 1.4	— 6.4
Great Britain: (Crump's)	60.2	63.5	+ 3.3	+ 2.0
Italy:* (Milan Chamber of Commerce).....	45.7	45.9	+ 0.2	— 4.8

* Figures for Italy are one week previous to the dates as indicated above.

in July from June and were 48 per cent less than in July, 1931, while the total of exports for the first 7 months of this year fell 39 per cent below the corresponding period of last year. The merchandise imports of Germany increased 1 per cent in July from June, but were 35 per cent less than in July of last year, and for the first 7 months of this year declined 37 per cent from the same period of last year. The excess of German exports declined 27 per cent in July from June and was 75 per cent less than in July, 1931, while for the first 7 months of 1932 they fell 46 per cent below the same period of last year.

Canadian exports of merchandise were 3 per cent greater in July than in June, but the imports were 12 per cent less. As compared with July, 1931, Canadian exports declined 15 per cent and imports, 26 per cent, while for the first 7 months of 1932 exports declined 22 per cent and imports, 31 per cent from the corresponding period of last year. The excess of Canadian imports declined 80 per cent during the first 7 months of this year from the same period of last year.

During the period from August 5 to September 4, wholesale commodity prices increased 1.4 points in the United States, 3.3 points in Great Britain, and .2 of 1 point in Italy. As compared with September 4, 1931, wholesale prices in Great Britain had increased 2 points, but had declined 6.4 points in the United States and 4.8 points in Italy.

Book Reviews

The Commercial Problems of the Woolen and Worsted Industries, By Paul T. Cherington. The Textile Foundation, Inc., Washington, D. C., 1932, 242 pp.

Mr. Cherington finds that the commercial problems of the woolen and worsted industries have risen largely out of two sets of human, although non-economic and non-commercial, factors. The first of these sets of conditioning factors developed within the industry itself and expressed itself in expansion of equipment beyond the ability of the market to absorb the output, and in practices that border on the unethical. The second, more recent and now more influential, arises in the market. The factors and their influences are considered in detail and a program of improvement for the industry outlined. Considerable use is made of data from the United States Census of Manufacturers and the United States Census of Distribution.

T. L. EASTERLING

Unemployment and Economic Status, Howard Whipple Green, Cleveland Health Council.

This publication indicates the relation of unemployment and relief requirements in Cleveland. The author estimates that $7,560,000 will be required for relief purposes in Cleveland in 1932. The report shows that in March, 1932, there were about 157,500 jobless persons in Cleveland, or about 40 per cent of Cleveland's gainful workers. It is estimated that in December, 1932, about $1,000,000 will be required for relief purposes. In March the number of relief families per 100 jobless did not exceed 12.

CONVENTION CALENDAR

Sept. 26, 27, 28	Washington, D. C.	American Association of Engineers, M. E. McIver, Secretary, 8 South Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill.
Sept. 26-29	Indianapolis, Ind.	The American Society of Certified Public Accountants, D. W. Springer, Secretary, 1202 National Press Bldg., Washington, D. C.
Sept. 26-30	Boston, Mass.	National Association of Retail Druggists, Samuel C. Henry, Secretary, 168 North Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill.
Oct. 3-6	Los Angeles, Cal.	American Bankers Association, F. N. Shepherd, Ex. Manager, 22 East 40th Street, New York, N. Y.
Oct. 3-7	Washington, D. C.	National Safety Council, W. H. Cameron, Managing Director, 20 N. Wacker Drive, Chicago, Ill.
Oct. 3-8	Chicago, Ill.	American Bakers Association, Tom Smith, Secretary, 1135 Fullerton Ave., Chicago, Illinois.
Oct. 4, 5, 6	Washington, D. C.	Federal Wholesale Druggists Assn., Inc., R. E. Lee Williamson, Secretary, 123 Market Place, Baltimore, Md.
Oct. 10-11	St. Louis, Mo.	Middle West Foreign Trade Committee, Malcolm M. Stewart, care of Chamber of Commerce, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Oct. 12, 13, 14	Dayton, Ohio	Ohio Association of Real Estate Boards, C. L. Converse, Secretary, 2930 A. I. U. Building, Columbus, Ohio.
Oct. 17-20	Kansas City, Mo.	American Institute of Accountants, John L. Carey, Secretary, 135 Cedar Street, New York, N. Y.
Oct. 17-19	Detroit, Mich.	International Association of Milk Dealers, R. E. Little, Ex. Secretary, 228 N. LaSalle St., Chicago, Ill.
Oct. 18-22	White Sulphur Spring, W. Va.	American Institute of Steel Construction Inc., Charles F. Abbott, 200 Madison Ave., New York, N. Y.
Oct. 20	Columbus, Ohio	Ohio Foundries Association, Robert Hoierman, Secretary, Penton Bldg., Cleveland, Ohio.
Oct. 20, 21	Columbus, Ohio	Ohio Chamber of Commerce, George B. Chandler, Secretary, Huntington Bank Building, Columbus, Ohio.
Oct. 25-27	Columbus, Ohio	The Ohio Building Association League, James A. Devine, Ex. Secretary, 501 Citizens Bank Bldg., Columbus, Ohio.